



Charlotte Mason's House of Education,
Scale How, Ambleside, UK, 2009

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tion, all written by men who appear to combine the authority of specialists with the insight of educational experts. The subjects treated are:—Greek, Latin, French, German, English, History, Geography, Algebra, Geometry, Physical Science, Chemistry, Botany and Physiology. It would be impossible to do justice to these important essays without a detailed criticism of each, but the attitude of the whole may be summed up in a sentence of Mr. Goschen's, cited in connection with the teaching of English: "You may drive people into working harder, but the results will disappoint you unless you make them fond of work. Greater knowledge is good, but there is a higher ideal—greater love of knowledge." We think this is a volume with which teachers and parents should make themselves familiar.

The Modern Reader's Bible, Part I., *Genesis*, Edited by R. G. Moulton, M.A. (Macmillan & Co., 2/6). Mr. Moulton tells us that the purpose of his series is, the History of the People of Israel as presented by themselves. The beautiful Bible legends read well in their new setting of consecutive narrative, on a nicely printed page; but the passages one wishes to omit are more startling than before in this modern dress. We cannot help hoping that this Bible, published in a series of inviting small volumes, may bring us a step nearer to the Children's Bible we have long desired; but, let us say it boldly and strongly, passages should be expunged from the Children's Bible relating episodes which it cannot conceivably be the Divine will that children should be made familiar with. There is a real danger in putting the Bible, as it stands, into the hands of children. We should like, in this connection, strongly to recommend *The Bible for Home Reading*, by C. G. Montefiore (Macmillan & Co., 6/-). It is prepared for Jewish household reading, and, naturally, contains the Old Testament only; but we believe that many Christian households would value the connected arrangement and the exceedingly valuable comments of the author.

OUR WORK.

House of Education.—Anyone wishing for a Probationer for the summer holidays should apply as soon as possible to the Secretary. There will probably be one or two vacancies for *Three Months' Students* (who do not propose to teach) for the term beginning October 1st. We hope as many ex-students as possible will be present at the Conference.

Parents' Review School.—The summer term begins April 26th. We hope that many parents will attend the Conference in May. It is desirable that members of the P.R.S. should be definitely members of the Union, and should be in touch with the work generally.

Mothers' Educational Course.—We hope as many members as can manage to be in London will attend the Conference, and that the meetings will give a sense of unity and community to the labours of students working out educational problems each in her own home.

Readers of the Parents' Review.—The Editor earnestly hopes that as many of the diligent readers of the *Parents' Review* as can accomplish it

will identify themselves still more closely with the P.N.E.U. by attending the Conference. We believe that these meetings will give great impulse to the work.

Natural History Club.—The Committee have decided that the Annual Exhibition of Collections, etc., shall in future be held at the time of the Annual Meeting of the Parents' National Educational Union, when many country members are in town. The Exhibition will therefore be held this year from May 24th—29th (inclusive), at 50, Porchester Terrace, Bayswater (close to Queen's Road Station). The exhibition will be on view from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. each day, except on Monday, May 24th, when it will open at 2.30 p.m. All exhibits should reach Mrs. Franklin, 50, Porchester Terrace, London, W., not later than May 21st, and stamps should be enclosed for return postage. The Committee will be glad to receive this year exhibits which have already been shown, where fresh collections, etc., cannot be made. The following suggestions as to possible exhibits may be found useful:—

1.—Pressed specimens of our earliest spring flowers,—specially designed to show from what flowers the bees derive their first supplies of honey wherewith to replenish the exhausted combs. Thus, specimens may be collected of the following:—Willow, Primrose, Dog Violet, Sweet Violet, Buttercups, Marsh Marigold, Dead Nettle, Wood Anemone, Ground Ivy, Purple Orchis, etc.,—the point, however, being to select those which the bees are observed to visit. The observation of the collector must determine which out of the list given are flowers frequented by bees.

2.—Most of our forest trees flower early before the leaves are put forth. A collection of such flowers would be interesting,—the reason for the early flowering being that the majority of such flowers are fertilized by the agency of the wind, and the presence of leaves would hinder the fulfilment of this purpose. Specimens could be obtained of the following:—Hazel, Alder (secure the fertile catkins of the present year, with those of last season, the latter persisting), Elm, Ash, Lilac, Privet, Yew, Box, Juniper, Beech, Poplar, etc.

3.—Collection of Roots, to illustrate Junior Botany Letter for October, 1895. Specimens to be named and briefly described.

4.—Collections showing development of germinating plant in various stages.

5.—Collections of Plants and Flowers (fresh and dried), illustrating some peculiar characteristic,—e.g., plants that climb with their leaves (Pea); plants that climb with their stems (*Convolvulus*), etc.

6.—Collections illustrating some particular district,—e.g., shells of a beach accompanied by specimens of rocks of which the cliff is formed, also by descriptions of the locality where they are found. Fresh water shell collections might be arranged in the same way.

For further suggestions see Annual Report of Natural History Club, to be obtained from Miss Blogg, 28, Victoria Street, S.W. (price 4½d.)

In connection with the above Exhibition, a lecture to children will be given at 50, Dorchester Terrace, Bayswater, on May 29th, commencing at 3 p.m., by Miss Simpson, of the Yorkshire College, Leeds, the subject being "The Life-History of a Butterfly," illustrated by lantern slides.

A paper on the work of the Natural History Club will be read by Mrs. Perrin at the P.N.E.U. Conference at London House (by kind permission of the Lord Bishop of London), on Wednesday, May 26th, at 11.30 a.m. This will be followed by an account of Natural History Clubs in the Branches and by a discussion on future work. It is hoped that members will be able to attend. For further particulars apply to Miss Blogg, 28, Victoria Street, S.W.

Excursions in connection with the Natural History Club have been arranged for the months of May and June, conducted by Miss Whitley, B.Sc. If the weather is too bad for an excursion, a demonstration class will be held instead. Fee: 10/- the course, or 2/- for a single ticket. All particulars of dates and places, etc., to be obtained from Miss Whitley, 18, Westbourne Terrace Road, Hyde Park, W., or from Miss Blogg, 28, Victoria Street.

Advanced Art Class.—Dear Editor,—It is a pity that Mrs. Steintal's pupils, when they pass the age of sixteen, should run the risk of inferior teaching outside the P.N.E.U. Readers may have seen Miss E. Stewart Wood's recent exhibition in Pall Mall, or some of her yearly contributions to the Academy. She is in thorough sympathy with Mrs. Steintal, and it is proposed that she should teach an advanced class, the germ of which has existed, apart from the P.N.E.U., for some years. 6s. per term (1s. per month) entitle members to one still-life subject per month, from November to April, and one landscape subject per month, from May to October. These subjects are henceforward to appear *sub* "Our Work," but I enter the one for May here in order to show how scope is given for various minds under varying conditions; and at the same time limits are set in order to prevent the waste of effort and the disappointment which occur when latitude is left to inexperience.

Subject for May, 1897: "Spring, thou darling of the year."

Spring is suggestive of pale and tender tones. The mauve of the pink blossom in shadow,—the delicate bloom on the trees of purple grey, powdered with young green,—the purity of blue in the sky, should all make a lovely harmony. And in the delicacy lies the difficulty. Beware of complications. Study rather one of the smaller blossoming trees, where the branching is easily seen and defined. The foreground,—perhaps some garden with upturned soil, pierced with young shoots of fresh green.

All work marked "for exhibition" is criticized by Mr. D. Murray, A.R.A., on the yearly "Pupils' Show Day," in Miss E. S. Wood's London studio, at 44, Holland Street, Kensington. She is at home here to all members who may visit town during the winter. Every spring she takes pupils into the country for weeks of outdoor lessons.

Extra courses of special subjects (such as skies, perspective, shadow forms, etc.) are to be had at 3s. the course (6d. per month). Further particulars are circulated in the portfolio, and forwarded on application to the Secretary (*pro tem.*, Miss Blogg, 28, Victoria Street, London, S.W.)

Yours very truly, E. H. JEBB.

Obituary Notices.

We have to record this month the death of Miss Emily Shirreff, who has been for some years a Vice-President of the Parents' National Educational Union. She died at the age of eighty-two, and until within four or five years of her death she lectured for the Union and attended lectures and committees. Miss Shirreff took a keen and kindly interest in the movement from the first. As a veteran educationalist she saw the great possibilities of the P.N.E.U., and gave valuable help at the important meeting of the Council in which the Principles and Objects of the Society were finally fixed. Since 1871, when she and her sister, Mrs. William Grey, were among the founders of the National Society for Improving the Education of Women, Miss Shirreff has been concerned in each of the important movements for the better education of girls and women. Much of her literary work has been devoted to the exposition of Froebel's ideas.

We have, too, with much sorrow, to record the death of the first of the students of The House of Education, who has died at her post. Miss Rose Leney was "monitress" during her training, a position of considerable authority and influence, and did much to keep up the *esprit de corps* of the College; she was always the wise and helpful friend of the weaker members. No monitress has been more beloved and respected by her fellow-students than Miss Rose Leney, and her death will be greatly felt by them all. After her training she undertook for a time the post of Head-mistress in the small *Parents' Review* School, in Airlie Gardens, established by Mrs. Franklin with a view to the education of her own children. Her excellence as a teacher and her personal sweetness made her very successful in this work; she was greatly valued by Mrs. Franklin, whose school-friend she had been in earlier days, loved by the children and held in high regard by the parents. Miss Leney's wish to give up the pleasant leisure of an attractive home in order that she might prepare herself for serious work in the world is indicative of the note of high endeavour which ran through her too short life.

THE "P.R." LETTER BAG.

[The Editor is not responsible for the opinions of Correspondents]

DEAR EDITOR,—I wish to draw the attention of your readers to the preliminary notice of the P.N.E.U. Conference which appears in the advertisement columns of this *Review*, page vi. The committee have arranged the Conference, &c., in the belief that it will be fruitful of much good work. They earnestly hope that it will tend to the wider diffusion of P.N.E.U. thought and teaching, and will link the branches into closer harmony. It will, moreover, afford an opportunity for the working out of new ideas and the discussion of those difficulties which do occasionally arise in the work of a branch.

Every member will receive a programme of the Conference and an invitation to the *Conversazione* through the Hon. Secretaries of the branches,